

**AMENDMENT**


Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly amend claims 1-4, without prejudice, to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended)      A ~~P~~promoter-transactivator system for inducible high-level mammalian gene expression with the option of cell growth control comprising

(a) a promoter construct (IRFE promoter) having the general structure:

 → mRNA  
[MPSV-E]-[IRF-1-binding sites]-[CMV]—DNA,

wherein

MPSV-E means MPSV enhancer repeats of the sequence:

GCTAGCTTAAGTAACGCCATTTTGCAAGGCATGGGAAAAATACATAACTGAGAATAGAGAAG  
TTCAGATCAAGGTCAGGAACAGAGAAACAGGAGAATATGGGCCAAACAGGATATCTGTGGTA  
AGCAGTTCCTGCCCCGCTCAGGGCCAAGAACAGTTGGAACAGGAGAATTGGGCCAAACAGGA  
TATCTGTGGTAAGCAGTTCCTGCCCCGCTCAGGGCCAAGAACAGATGGTCCCCAGATGCGGT  
CCCCCCCTCAGCAGTTTCTAGA,

or isofunctional variants thereof obtained by substitution, insertion or deletion of one or more nucleotides,

IRF-1-binding sites means the sequence:

GATCCCTTCTCGGGAAATGGAAACTGAAAATCAGATCCCTTCTCGGGAAATGGAAACTGAAA  
ATCAGATC,

or isofunctional variants thereof obtained by substitution, insertion or deletion of one or more nucleotides, and

CMV means a minimal promoter of the sequence:

TGGCGTGTACGGTGGGAGGCCTATATAAGCAGAGCTCGTTTAGTGAACCGTCAAACCGTCAA  
ACCGCGGAAGCT,